1	2	3	4
3.	Iran	10-13 April, 2001	1. Agreement on Trade & Economic Cooperation 2. Agreement on Customs Cooperation 3. MOU on Information Technology 4. MOU on Cooperation in the field of Energy 5. MOU on Cooperation in the field of Power (Conventional and Non-Con ventionai Sources) 6. MOU on Technical Cooperation
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS		MINISTER	
4.	Germany	17-18 Jan., 2001	Nil
5.	Saudi Arabia	20-21 Jan., 2001	Nil
6.	Syria	30 Jan-1 Feb., 2001	Nil
7.	Egypt	2-5 February,	Nil
8.	Denmark	3rd April 2001	Nil
9.	Sweden	4th April, 2001	Nil
10.	USA	5-7 April, 2001	Nil However India and US have already set up a Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism in the year 2000.
11.	Tehran	10-13 April 2001	As mentioned against SI. No. 3

US Ambassador's links with CIA

4454. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the designated US Ambassador to the country is having close working relations with the CIA;

(b) if so, what are the political and other implications involved in his Ambassadorial assignment to the country; and

(c) Government's reaction with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU) : (a) to (c) It is assumed that as a former U.S. public official, the U.S. Ambassador-designate to India would have had dealings

with all branches of Government. These should not have any special bearing on his future responsibilities as Ambassador in India.

Revision of existing visa system by US Government

4455. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Government has recently reviewed its existing 'visa system' and thereby streamlined the family based immigration through additional 'V' visas and *K' visas for the families of green card holders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of Indian spouses and children who are likely to be benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the Legal Immigration Family Equity (LIFE) Act Amendments, the U.S. Government has introduced new categories of non-immigrant visas termed as 'K" and 'V visas.

The 'K' and 'V visas are meant for the spouse and children of a U.S. citizen and a lawful permanent U.S. resident respectively, to enable them to live in the U.S. while awaiting their immigration process to be completed. The number of likely beneficiaries has not been estimated.